

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 88-115 are pending.

Claims 89-94, 96-105, and 115 are withdrawn.

The title of the invention was objected to for being non-descriptive.

Claim 88 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of Leedy U.S. Patent No. 6,563,224 (hereinafter "the '224 patent").

Claims 88 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Sadeg M. Faris U.S. Patent No. 5,786,629 (hereinafter "Faris").

Claims 106-108 and 111-114 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Faris in view of Sakui et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,615,163 (hereinafter "Sakui").

Claim 109 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Faris in view of Norbert Daberko U.S. Patent No. 5,787,445 (hereinafter "Daberko").

Claim 110 was objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

Applicant has amended the title.

Applicant has amended claims 88 and 95 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention.

Applicant has added new claims 116-128 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.

The Title Objection

The Examiner objected to the title for not being descriptive.

Applicant has amended the title to be more clearly descriptive in order to overcome the Examiner's objection.

The Double Patenting Rejection of Claim 88

Claims 88 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of Leedy U.S. Patent No. 6,563,224.

Applicant traverses the Examiner's rejection and submits that claim 1 of Leedy includes a memory circuit and applicant's claim 88 does not. Since a memory circuit having a thinned substrate is patentably distinct from an integrated circuit, the double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

Regardless, applicant notes that claim 88 is still rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Faris. As discussed below, claim 88 is allowable over Faris. If the Examiner does not withdraw the 102(b) rejection in view of Faris, however, applicant may decide to further amend claim 88 in order to expedite prosecution. Further amendments to claim 88 may remove the Examiner's double patenting rejection that requires a Terminal Disclaimer is required. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's double patenting rejection is premature.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection of Claims 88 and 95

Claims 88 and 95 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Faris.

Applicant's invention as of amended claim 88 includes an integrated circuit having two substrates bonded together to form conductive paths from one of the substrates to another of the substrates.

Faris describes integrated circuits having fillo-leafs connected on the outer edges of the fillo-leafs. Faris explicitly prevents conductive paths from being formed from ,or on the backside of, the fillo-leafs due to the forming of a copper heat sink.

The Examiner stated that Faris discloses applicant's invention of claim 88 of two substrates bonded together to form conductive paths from one of the substrates to another of the substrates. Yet, Faris only forms connections between the substrates on the outer edges of the substrates. Faris is silent on forming connections between substrates and teaches away through Faris' incorporation of passivation layer 16. Accordingly, Faris does not show or suggest applicant's invention, as defined by claim 88, a first substrate bonded to a second substrate to form conductive paths between the two bonded substrates.

For at least the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that, the rejection of claim 88, and any claims dependent therefrom, in view of Faris be withdrawn. Claim 95 depends from claim 88. As shown above, claim 88 is allowable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of claim 95 in view of Faris be withdrawn.

The Rejection of Claims 106-108 and 111-114

Claims 106-108 and 111-114 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Faris in view of Sakui.

Claims 106-108 and 111-114 depend from claims 88. As shown above, claim 88 is patentable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submits that claims 106-108 and 111-114 are allowable because claim 88 is allowable.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection of Claim 109

Claim 109 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Faris in view of Daberko.

Claim 109 depends from claim 106. As shown above, claim 106 is patentable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submits that claim 109 is allowable because claim 106 is allowable.

The Objection to Claim 110

Claim 110 was objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 110 depends from claim 106. As shown above, claim 106 is patentable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submits that claim 110 is allowable because claim 106 is allowable.

New Claims 116-128

Applicant has added new claims 116-128 that include an integrated circuit having two substrates bonded together with conductive paths formed on selected surfaces of the substrates. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 116-128 are patentable.

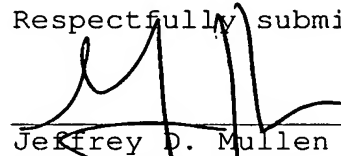
Withdrawn Claims

Applicant would like to point out that many claims that depend from claim 88 are withdrawn. Once claim 88 is allowed, such withdrawn dependent claims should be reinstated and allowed.

Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that claims 88, 95, 106-114, 116-128, and any claims dependent therefrom are allowable. This application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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